



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 25, 1998

### **H.R. 3682** **Child Custody Protection Act**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on June 23, 1998*

CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3682 would not result in any significant cost to the federal government. Because enactment of H.R. 3682 could affect direct spending and receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply to the bill. However, CBO estimates that any impact on direct spending and receipts would not be significant. H.R. 3682 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

H.R. 3682 would make it a federal crime to transport a minor across state lines, under certain circumstances, to obtain an abortion. Violators would be subject to imprisonment and fines. As a result, the federal government would be able to pursue cases that it otherwise would not be able to prosecute. CBO expects that the government probably would not pursue many such cases, however, so we estimate that any increase in federal costs for law enforcement, court proceedings, or prison operations would not be significant. Any such additional costs would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Because those prosecuted and convicted under H.R. 3682 could be subject to criminal fines, the federal government might collect additional fines if the bill is enacted. Collections of such fines are recorded in the budget as governmental receipts (revenues), which are deposited in the Crime Victims Fund and spent in the following year. CBO expects that any additional collections from enacting H.R. 3682 would be negligible, however, because of the small number of cases likely to be involved. Because any increase in direct spending would equal the fines collected with a one-year lag, the additional direct spending also would be negligible.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.